

permanent workers of big public sector enterprises, such as BHEL, NALCO, IOC and others; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the concrete steps proposed to be taken for the welfare of contract workers particularly to make the principal employer responsible for the welfare of contract workers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) and (b) The Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1970 has been enacted with a view to regulating the employment of contract labour in certain establishments and to provide for its abolition in certain specific circumstances. There is no restriction on establishments to engage contract labour in those processes, operations or works wherein engagement of contract labour has not been prohibited under the provisions of the Act. Adequate provisions exist in the various labour laws including the Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1970 to protect the interests of contract labour in terms of their welfare, health and social security and prevent their exploitation.

Unemployment as per National Sample Survey

832. SHRI DARA SINGH: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that according to the latest report of National Sample Survey, 58 per cent of the population of the country in year 2004-05 was unemployed;

(b) whether it is a fact that the number of maximum people without work was highest among the educated, than the uneducated, and amongst 42 per cent employed people, the rural areas accounted for 44 per cent and urban areas 37 per cent; and

(c) if so, what is rate of employment during 2005-06, as compared to 2004-05, amongst males/females employed in service sector, manufacturing sector and agricultural sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) Reliable estimates of employment and unemployment are obtained through the quinquennial labour force surveys carried out by National Sample Survey Organisation

(NSSO). Last such survey for which results are available relates to 2004-05. Unemployment rate on usual status basis has been estimated at 2.3 per cent of the labour force during 2004-05.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Sector-wise distribution of usually employed persons for males & females in rural & urban areas of the country during the last two quinquennial surveys on usual status basis is given in the enclosed Statement.

Statement

Sector-wise distribution of usually employed persons for males and females in the rural and urban areas of the country during 1999-2000 and 2004-05.

Industry	1999-2000				2004-2005			
	Rural		Urban		Rural		Urban	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Agriculture	71.4	85.4	6.6	17.7	66.5	83.3	6.1	18.1
Mining & Quarrying	0.6	0.3	0.9	0.4	0.6	0.3	0.9	0.2
Manufacturing	7.3	7.6	22.4	24.0	7.9	8.4	23.5	28.2
Electricity, gas & water supply	0.2	—	0.8	0.2	0.2	0.00	0.8	0.2
Construction	4.5	1.1	8.7	4.8	6.8	1.5	9.2	3.8
Trade	6.8	2.0	29.4	16.9	8.3	2.5	28.0	12.2
Transport, Storage & Communication	3.2	0.1	10.4	1.8	3.8	0.2	10.7	1.4
Others	6.1	3.7	21.0	34.2	5.9	3.9	20.8	35.9
TOTAL:	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

Note:—Total may not tally due to rounding.

Non-application of labour laws in SEZs

†833. SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that labour laws would not be applied to Special Economic Zones to be set up in the country;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.